

Women's sexual health care in Saudi Arabia: A focused  
ethnographic study

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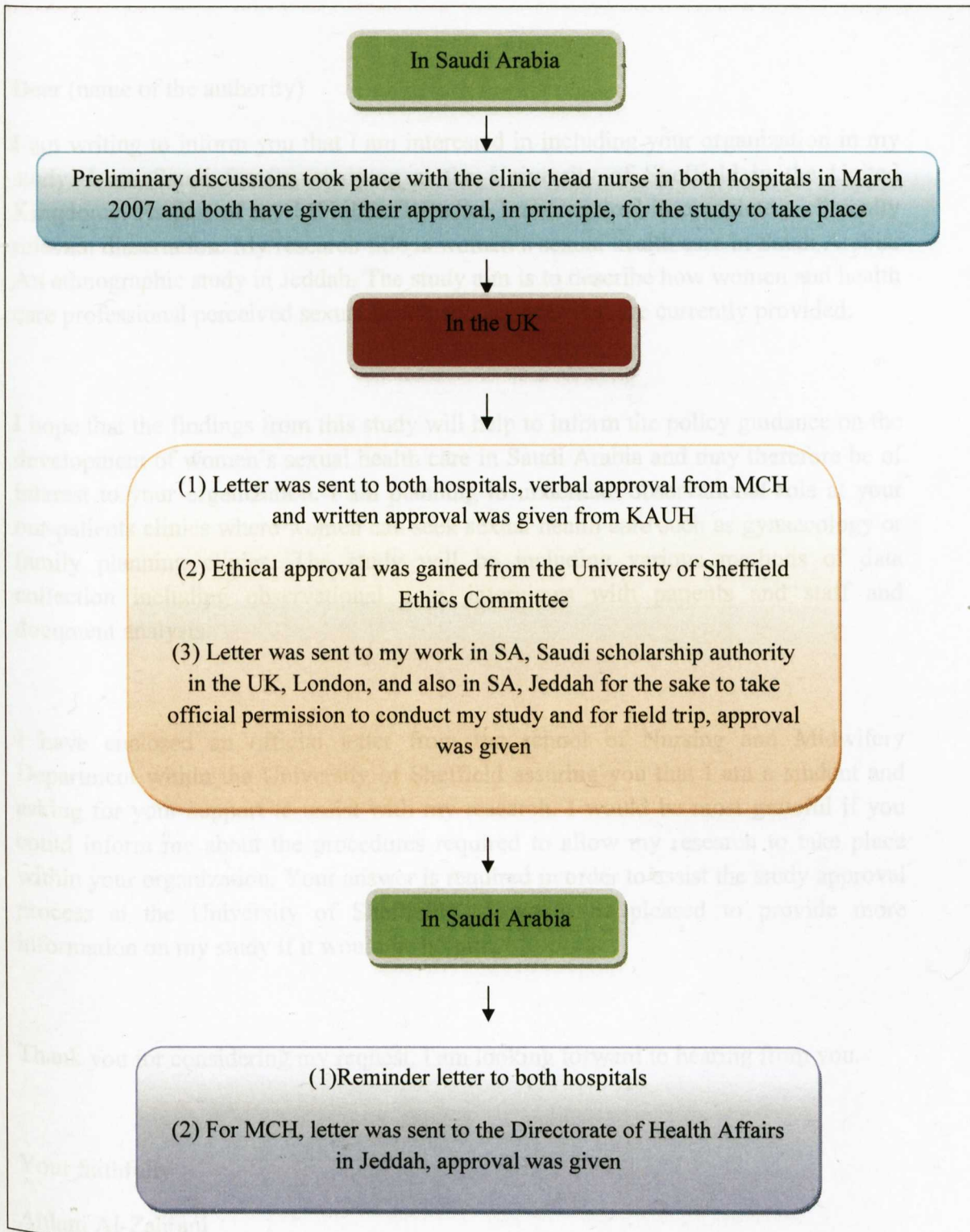
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## Appendix 1: Summary chart for study approval



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## Appendix 2: Letter to gain approval from hospitals

Presented on Sheffield headed paper

Dear (name of the authority)

I am writing to inform you that I am interested in including your organization in my study. I am Saudi female, studying at the University of Sheffield in the United Kingdom. As part of my MPhil/PhD studies I am required to complete a clinically relevant dissertation. My research title is women's sexual health care in Saudi Arabia: An ethnographic study in Jeddah. The study aim is to describe how women and health care professional perceived sexual health and services that are currently provided.

I hope that the findings from this study will help to inform the policy guidance on the development of women's sexual health care in Saudi Arabia and may therefore be of interest to your organization. I am planning to undertake observational role at your out-patients clinics where women can seek sexual health care such as gynaecology or family planning clinics. The study will be including various methods of data collection including observational note, interviews with patients and staff and document analysis.

I have enclosed an official letter from the school of Nursing and Midwifery Department within the University of Sheffield assuring you that I am a student and asking for your support to assist with my research. I would be most grateful if you could inform me about the procedures required to allow my research to take place within your organization. Your answer is required in order to assist the study approval process at the University of Sheffield. I would be pleased to provide more information on my study if it would be helpful.

Thank you for considering my request. I am looking forward to hearing from you.

Your faithfully

Ahlam Al-Zahrani

### Appendix 3: Support letter from the researcher's supervisor



The  
University  
Of  
Sheffield.

The School Of  
Nursing  
And  
Midwifery.

To Whom It May Concern

4 July 2007

**Dean**  
**Anne M Peat**

Bartolomé House  
Winter Street  
Sheffield  
S3 7ND

**Telephone:** +44 (0) 114 222 9714  
**Fax:** +44 (0) 114 222 9712  
**Email:** t.m.pacan@sheffield.ac.uk

Dear Sir

I am writing to you to inform you that Mrs Ahlam Al-Zahrani is currently enrolled as a full-time postgraduate student at the School of Nursing and Midwifery, The University of Sheffield. As part of her study she is expected to carry out a research study under the direction of me as her supervisor. She therefore needs to collect appropriate data in Saudi Arabia. She is keen to include your organisation in her study therefore I hope you will be able to assist her in this matter.

If I can provide any further assistance or clarification in this matter please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully

**Dr Mark Hayter**  
**Senior Lecturer**



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FOR SERVICES TO THE NATION  
1978-2006-2007

## Appendix 4: Approval from KAUH

KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA

Ministry of Higher Education

KING ABDULAZIZ UNIVERSITY

Faculty of Medicine



المملكة العربية السعودية  
وزارة التعليم العالي  
جامعة الملك عبد العزيز  
كلية الطب

Ref:FM : .....

Date : / /

Encl : .....

الرقم : .....

التاريخ : ١٤ / / ١٤٠٥ هـ

المرفقات : .....

### Research Ethics Committee Approval Form

This is to certify that the research proposal (# 086-07) entitled:

**Women's sexual health care in Saudi Arabia: An ethnographic  
study in Jeddah**

#### Submitted by:

Researcher: Ahlam Al-Zahrani  
School of Nursing

Has been reviewed by the committee with respect to protecting the rights and welfare of human subjects involved in the research project and/or experimental animals utilized. The methods employed are adequate for obtaining the information required and satisfy the required ethical principles and does not involve undue risk in the light of the potential medical benefits to be derived there from.

#### Decision:

The committee approves the above-mentioned proposal as fulfilling the ethical requirements.

**Professor Hassan A Nasrat**

Chairman of the Research Ethics Committee

ص.ب ٨٠٢٠٥ جدة ٢١٥٨٩  
P.O. Box 80205 Jeddah 21589

برقياً : «جامعة عبد العزيز»  
Cable : "Jameatabdulaziz"

تلكس (٦٠١١٤) كايني إس جيه  
Telex : 601141 Kauni SJ

فاكس : ٦٤٠٠٨٥٥  
Fax : 6400855

٦٩٥٢٤٤٦ / ٦٩٥٢٠٦٣  
☎ : 6952446/6952063

## Appendix 5: Approval from MCH

Kingdom of Saudi Arabia  
Ministry of Health  
Directorate of Health Affairs - Jeddah



المملكة العربية السعودية  
وزارة الصحة  
مديرية الشؤون الصحية بمحافظة جدة

Director Office

مكتب المدير

الموقر / سعادة / مدير مستشفى الولادة والأطفال بصحة جدة

السلام عليكم ورحمة الله وبركاته،

إنطلاقاً من مبدأ التعاون القائم بين المرافق الصحية بعضها البعض نفيدكم بأن  
الياحته / أحلام عيضة محمد الزهراني سوف تقوم بإجراء بحث بعنوان  
(الرعاية الصحية الجنسية للنساء داخل السعودية) .

وبعد الإطلاع ودراسة منهجية البحث وجد أنه لا مانع من إجراء البحث لأجل التكرم  
من سعادتك بتسهيل مهمة الباحث في إجراء بحثها وذلك بتعبئة الاستبانة.

شاكرين لسعادتك تعاونكم معنا.

وتقبلوا فائق التحية،

رئيسة قسم الدراسات والبحوث  
د/ ريم محمد الرضوي

٢٠١٩

مساعد مدير الشؤون الصحية بمحافظة جدة  
للتخطيط والتطوير

د/ أسامة بن صبيد ظفر

لرئيسة  
نائب المدير مع الباحث  
لا تهاجمه  
٢٠١٩  
١٤٤٠

السيدة ريم  
د/ ريم محمد الرضوي  
مديرة الشؤون الصحية  
بمحافظة جدة  
٢٠١٩  
١٤٤٠

الرقم: ٤٥٤٩ / ٤٧/ج التاريخ: ١٩ / ١٤٢٩ هـ المرفقات: ثلث

هاتف: ٠٢/٦٩٧٠٠٠٦ مباشر: ٠٢/٦٨٣١٣٧٧ فاكس: ٠٢/٦٦٢٢٩٦١ ص.ب: ١٢٤٩٣ الرمز البريدي: ٢١١٧٦  
Central: 02 / 6970006 Direct: 02 / 6831377 Fax: 02 / 6622961 P.O. Box: 12493 Jeddah: 21176

المعاملة الحسنة لا تحتاج إلى عيانات

## **Appendix 6: Approval from Sheffield University**

Dean  
Anne M Peat  
School of Nursing and Midwifery

**Telephone:** +44 (0) 114 2269849  
**Fax:** +44 (0) 114 2269790  
**Email:** j.flint@sheffield.ac.uk

Dear Ahlam

**Women's sexual health care in Saudi Arabia: an ethnographic study in Jeddah**  
**Ref: ERP 83/07**

I am pleased to inform you that on 3 January 2008 the School's Ethics Reviewers **approved** the above-named project on ethics grounds, on the basis that you will adhere to and use the following documents that you submitted for ethics review:

- UREC application form (version 2)
- Invitation letter for health professionals (appendix 1, version 3)
- Information sheet for health professionals (appendix 2, version 3)
- Research reply form (appendix 3, version 2)
- Invitation letter for women (appendix 4, version 3)
- Information sheet for women (appendix 5, version 3)
- Research consent form (appendix 6, version 2)

Please note that the reviewers have made some amendments on the text on appendices 1, 2, 4 and 5, and you should use these versions of the documents – now renamed version 3 and attached to this letter.

If during the course of the project you need to deviate from the above-approved documents please inform me. The written approval of the School's Ethics Review Panel will be required for significant deviations from or significant changes to the above-approved documents. If you decide to terminate the project prematurely please inform me.

Best wishes  
**Jane Flint**  
**Ethics Administrator**



## Appendix 7: Invitation letter for women

Presented on Sheffield University headed paper

### Study title: Women's sexual health care in Saudi Arabia: An ethnographic study in Jeddah

My name is Ahlam Al-Zahrani. I would like to invite you to participate in a research study which aims to describe how women and health care professionals perceive sexual health and services that are currently provided.

My research is being conducted for a PhD which I am undertaking at the University of Sheffield in the UK. I have obtained ethical approval for the study from the University of Sheffield and I have also obtained permission from the hospital. However, your consent to take part is also an essential requirement.

I hope that the findings from my study will provide greater understanding about sexual health and sexual health services. It is anticipated that the research findings will provide insight into how women's sexual health and sexual health services might be further improved in Saudi Arabia.

An **information sheet**, which provides further details of the study, is attached. Please read this carefully as it will help you to decide whether or not you wish to take part. If you decide to take part or you want to ask more questions or want to discuss the study in more detail please ask the clinic receptionist to call me for you. Please note that *taking part is voluntary therefore*, asking further questions will not commit you to taking part in the study. Thank you very much for considering my request.

Yours sincerely

Ahlam Al-Zahrani

## Appendix 8: Invitation letter for women (Arabic version)

Presented on Sheffield University headed paper

اسمي أحلام الزهراني أود أن أذكوك للمشاركة في دراسة بحث يُهدفُ لوصف الطريقة التي تنتظر بها النساء و مختصو الرعاية الصحية النسائية إلى الصحة الجنسية للنساء والخدمات التي يتم تقديمها الآن. عنوان الدراسة هو : الرعاية الصحية الجنسية للنساء في المملكة العربية السعودية دراسة عرقية في جدة.

بحثي يُجرى لرسالة الدكتوراه في جامعة شيفيلد في المملكة المتحدة (بريطانيا). حصلتُ على الموافقة للدراسة من جامعة شيفيلد و أيضاً من المستشفيات المشاركة . على أية حال، موافقتك أيضاً متطلبٌ ضروري.

أتمنى بأن النتائج من دراستي ستزوّد فهم أكثر حول الصحة الجنسية والخدمات الصحية الجنسية.

و يتوقع بأن نتائج البحث ستزوّد بصيرة إلى كيفية تحسين صحة النساء الجنسية والخدمات الصحية الجنسية في المملكة العربية السعودية.

ورقة المعلومات التي تزودك بتفاصيل أخرى للدراسة، ملحقة بهذه الورقة. رجاء إقرأها بعناية لأنها ستساعدك للتقرير ما إذا كنتي تريدين الإشتراك في البحث أو لا. إذا قرّرت الإشتراك أو تريدي طرح سؤال/ أسئلة أكثر أو تريدي مناقشة الدراسة بتفصيل أكثر رجاء إطلب من موظفة إستقبال العيادة دعوتي لك.

رجاء، أنبه أن الإشتراك في البحث طوعي لذا سؤالك أو إستفسارك سوف لن يلزمك في الإشتراك في الدراسة. أخيراً شكراً جزيلاً للنظر في طلبي.

تحياتي وشكري لك

الباحثة، أحلام الزهراني

## **Appendix 9: Information sheet for women**

### **Study title: Women's sexual health care in Saudi Arabia: An ethnographic study in Jeddah**

#### **What is the aim of the study?**

The study aims to describe how women and health care professionals perceive sexual health and services that are currently provided.

#### **What are the objectives of the study?**

- (1) Explore how women perceive and respond to their sexual health
- (2) Explore how women and health care professionals perceive the function, nature and use of sexual health services
- (3) Describe how sexual health care services in Jeddah, SA are designed and implemented
- (4) Describe the role of doctors and nurses within the context of women's sexual health care context

#### **Who can participate in the study?**

- (1) All staff working in, or managing, the clinic.
- (2) Any woman attending the clinic for family planning or for postpartum check up who is aged 15 years and above, married, without mental health problems, who have not been victim of rape or sexual assault and who speaks Arabic.

---

**Do I have to take part in the study?**

Your participation is entirely voluntary; it is up to you to decide whether or not to take part. If you would like to take part or to ask questions, please ask the clinic receptionist to call me. The researcher will then contact you personally. If you have decided to participate in the study you will be given this information sheet to keep and asked to sign a consent form. It is necessary to know that even though you agree to take part in the study and you give consent, you still have the right to withdraw at any time and without giving reasons and that will not affect the standard of care or any treatment you receive.

**What will happen to me if I decide to take part?**

There are a number of different ways in which you can take part. If you attend the clinic for family planning or for postpartum check up you can agree to the researcher observing the consultation with your doctor/nurse (providing they give their consent), or you can agree only to being interviewed, or you can agree to being observed and interviewed. If you do decide to take part the researcher will confirm what you are willing to do.

**What is the researcher role during the consultation?**

The role of the researcher will be observer only. That means the researcher will not be involved in giving clinical care or looking at your records. The researcher will be sitting in the room observing and taken written notes.

**Does my doctor/nurse also need to consent to the researcher attending the consultation?**

Yes. The researcher will gain permission from your doctor/nurse for attending the consultation. However, your permission is necessary as well. Either you or your doctor/nurse may ask the researcher to leave the consultation room at any time.

**What will happen if my doctor/nurse refuses to allow the researcher to observe the consultation?**

The researcher has to respect the decision and therefore the researcher will not be able to observe the consultation between you and your doctor/nurse. However, you can still give permission to be interviewed if you are interested in taking part in the study.

**Do I have to wait for the researcher to attend the observation or the interview?**

If your turn to be seen by your doctor/nurse came and the researcher was not present, you do not have to wait for the researcher to attend the consultation or the interview. However, this is unlikely to happen unless the researcher conducting an interview or observation with another participant.

**When the researcher will intend to conduct the interview?**

The interview will be conducted at any time after observing the consultation. However, if you or the researcher will not be able to perform the interview on the same date, an appointment will be arranged to conduct the interview at a convenient day/time in the hospital. The interview will be tape recorded with your agreement. You will be interviewed by the researcher alone and the interview will take approximately one hour. The interview will usually be based around what is observed in the clinic and in the consultation. It is necessary to know that even though you agree to take part in the study and you give consent, you still have the right to withdraw at any time without giving reasons. Also, during the interview you have the right to refuse to answer any questions and you can withdraw at any time.

**Will my taking part in this project be kept confidential?**

Yes. All information obtained from the study will be treated as confidential and not disclosed to anyone. It will be kept in a secure place, to which only the researcher will have access. The reports and publications arising from the study will not identify any individual who participated or the hospital in which you work. I will use some short extracts from transcripts in my dissertation and in future publications, but these will be anonymised.

**What will happen to the research results?**

It is anticipated that the research findings will initially be disseminated through presentations to staff working in both of the study hospitals. It is hoped that conference presentations and publications in both Saudi Arabia and the UK will follow. The doctoral thesis arising from my research will be available via the British library and the University of Sheffield library.

**Who is funding the project?**

The study researcher has been awarded a scholarship by the Saudi Arabian Ministry of Higher Education.

**Who has ethically reviewed the project?**

This project has been approved by the Research Ethics Committee at the University of Sheffield in the United Kingdom, and by the Ethics Committee in each participating hospital.

**Are there disadvantages to taking part in the study?**

I do not anticipate any particular disadvantages from taking part in this study. However, if you wish to complain please contact the hospital manager or the study supervisors. Contact details are given at the bottom of this sheet.

**What are the possible benefits of taking part?**

Whilst there are no anticipated benefits from taking part in this study I hope you will enjoy taking part. I hope the study findings will provide insight into issues relating to women's sexual health and to service delivery, and perhaps result in improvements to the future provision of sexual health care in Saudi Arabia.

Thank you for reading this participant information sheet and I look forward to your participation. If there is anything that is not clear or that you would like more information about, please ask the clinic receptionist to call me. You may contact me directly by the email address or phone number provided below. Please note that asking further questions will not commit you to taking part in the study

**Researcher:**

**Ahlam Al-Zahrani**

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Email: [j.a.ruane@sheffield.ac.uk](mailto:j.a.ruane@sheffield.ac.uk)

**Hospitals contact details**

**Maternity and Children Hospital**

**Hospital director**

P.O Box 13677, Jeddah 21414

Saudi Arabia

Telephone: 00966 2 6652053

Fax: 00966 2 6653517



**King Abdulaziz University Hospital**

**Hospital Director**

P.O Box: 80215

Jeddah 21589

Telephone: 00966 2 6401000

Fax: 00966 2 6952524

## Appendix 10: Information sheet for women (Arabic version)

عنوان الدراسة : الرعاية الصحية الجنسية للنساء في المملكة العربية السعودية :  
دراسة عرقية في جدة

ما هو الغرض من الدراسة ؟

الهدف من الدراسة هو وصف الطريقة التي تنتظر بها النساء ومختصو الرعاية الصحية النسائية إلى الصحة الجنسية للنساء والخدمات التي يتم تقديمها الآن .

ما هي أهداف الدراسة ؟

- 1- استكشاف الطريقة التي تنتظر بها النساء إلى الصحة الجنسية وتجابهن معها.
- 2- استكشاف الطريقة التي تنتظر بها النساء ومختصو الرعاية الصحية النسائية إلى وظيفة وطبيعة وخدمات الصحة الجنسية .
- 3- وصف الطريقة التي يتم بها تصميم وتطبيق خدمات الرعاية الصحية الجنسية في جدة .
- 4- وصف دور الأطباء والممرضات في سياق خدمات الرعاية الصحية الجنسية النسائية .

من يشارك في الدراسة ؟

- 1- كل العاملين الذين يعملون في العيادة ويديرونها .
- 2- أي امرأة تأتي إلى العيادة للتخطيط الأسري أو لفحص ما بعد الولادة وعمرها 15 سنة أو أكثر ومتزوجة بدون مشاكل عقلية حالياً ولم تكن ضحية اغتصاب أو اعتداء جنسي في وقت زيارة العيادة وتحدث العربية .

### هل أشارك في الدراسة ؟

مشاركتك في الدراسة طوعية وأنت التي تقرر ذلك . وإذا أردت أن تسأل أسئلة فاطلبي من موظفة الاستقبال في العيادة أن تنادي الباحثة لكي . عندها ستقوم الباحثة بمقابلتك مباشرة . وإذا قررت أن تشاركي في الدراسة فسوف تعطيك الباحثة ورقة المعلومات هذه لكي توقعي عليها وتوافقي عليها . ومن الضروري أن تعرفي أنك حتى بعد أن توافقي على المشاركة في الدراسة فإنك تملكين الحق في أن تنسحي في أي وقت تشائين بدون إبداء الأسباب ولن يؤثر ذلك في مستوى الرعاية التي تتلقينها .

### ماذا يحدث إذا قررت أن أشارك ؟

هناك عدة طرق يمكنك أن تشاركين بها . فإذا حضرت إلى العيادة من أجل التخطيط الأسري (موانع حمل) أو من أجل فحص ما بعد الولادة فبإمكانك أن توافقي على أن تحضر الباحثة الاستشارة مع الطبيب أو الممرضة (إذا سمحا بذلك) أو يمكن أن توافقي على إجراء مقابلة معك فقط أو توافقي على المقابلة والملاحظة معاً . فإذا وافقت على المشاركة فإن الباحثة سوف تتأكد من ما تريدين أن تفعليه .

### ما هو دور الباحثة أثناء الاستشارة ؟

دور الباحثة هو الملاحظة فقط . أي أنها لن تشارك في الرعاية الطبية والنظر في سجلاتك . بل تجلس في الغرفة وتلاحظ وتكتب الملاحظات .

### هل يجب على الباحثة أن تأخذ موافقة الدكتور أو الممرضة ؟

نعم . سوف تأخذ الباحثة إذنًا من الدكتور أو الممرضة لحضور الاستشارة . ولكن الإذن منك ضروري أيضاً . وأنت أو الدكتور أو الممرضة يمكن أن تطلبوا من الباحثة أن تغادر غرفة الاستشارة في أي وقت .

ماذا يحدث إذا رفض الدكتور أو الممرضة السماح للباحثة بملاحظة الاستشارة ؟

يتعين على الباحثة أن تحترم القرار ولذا لن يكون بمقدورها أن تلاحظ الاستشارة بينك وبين الدكتور أو الممرضة. في هذا الحال يمكنك الإشتراك في المقابلة فقط.

هل يتعين علي أن أنتظر الباحثة لكي تحضر للملاحظة أو المقابلة ؟

إذا جاء دورك لمقابلة الدكتور أو الممرضة والباحثة غير موجودة فلن يتعين عليك أن تنتظري الباحثة لحضور الاستشارة أو المقابلة . ولكن هذا ليس من المرجح أن يحدث إلا إذا كانت الباحثة تقوم بالملاحظة أو تجري مقابلة مع مشاركة أخرى .

متى تنوي الباحثة إجراء المقابلة ؟

يتم إجراء المقابلة في أي وقت بعد ملاحظة الاستشارة . ولكن إذا لم تستطع الباحثة إجراء المقابلة في نفس اليوم فإنها تقوم بعمل موعد لإجراء المقابلة في وقت مريح في المستشفى . هذه المقابلة سيتم تسجيلها على آلة تسجيل . وسوف تجري الباحثة المقابلة معكي وحدها ولمدة ساعة واحدة تقريباً . وعادة ما تكون المقابلة عن ما تمت ملاحظته في العيادة وفي الاستشارات . ومن الضروري أن تعرفي أنك حتى بعد أن توافقي على المشاركة في الدراسة فإنك تملكين الحق في أن تنسحبي في أي وقت تشائين بدون إبداء الأسباب . وخلال المقابلة يحق لك أن ترفضى الإجابة على أي أسئلة وأن تنسحبي في أي وقت تشائين .

هل ستكون مشاركتي في المشروع سرية ؟

نعم . كل المعلومات التي يتم الحصول عليها من الدراسة ستكون سرية ولن يتم الإفشاء بها لأي شخص . والتقارير والمواد المكتوبة في الرسالة لن تحدد أي فرد اشترك أو المستشفى التي تم فيها ذلك . وسوف تستخدم الباحثة بعض المقتطفات من الرسالة في المواد المنشورة في المستقبل ولكن ذلك سيكون بدون ذكر أي أسماء .

### ماذا يحدث لنتائج البحث ؟

من المتوقع في البداية نشر نتائج البحث من خلال عروض تعرض على العاملين الذين يعملون في المستشفى . ومن المتوقع أيضاً أن يتم نشر العروض في كل من المملكة العربية السعودية والمملكة المتحدة . ويمكن الحصول على رسالة الدكتوراه الخاصة بهذا البحث من المكتبة البريطانية ومكتبة جامعة شيفيلد .

### من الذي يمول المشروع ؟

حصلت الباحثة على منحة دراسية من وزارة التعليم العالي السعودية .

### من الذي راجع المشروع من الناحية الأخلاقية ؟

هذا المشروع تم اعتماده من لجنة قيم الأبحاث في جامعة شيفيلد بالمملكة المتحدة ولجنة القيم في كل مستشفى مشارك

### هل هناك مضار تنتج عن المشاركة ؟

لا أتوقع مضار من المشاركة في الدراسة . ولكن إذا أردت أن تشكي فيمكن أن تتصلي بمدير المستشفى أو مشرفي الدراسة . عناوين الاتصال موجودة في نهاية هذه الورقة .

### ما هي المنافع التي تنتج عن المشاركة ؟

في الوقت الذي لا أتوقع فيه منافع فورية من المشاركة في هذه الدراسة فإنني أرجو أن تستمعي بالمشاركة . وأرجو أن تعطي نتائج الدراسة معلومات عن القضايا المتعلقة بالصحة الجنسية للنساء والخدمات المقدمة وربما أدى ذلك إلى تحسين/ توفير الرعاية الصحية الجنسية في المملكة العربية السعودية في المستقبل .

أشكرك على قراءة ورقة معلومات المشاركة هذه وآمل أن تشاركي في الدراسة . وإذا كان هناك شيئاً مبهماً  
وتريدين معلومات إضافية عنه فاطلبي من موظفة الاستقبال في العيادة أن تناديني . ويمكنك أن تتصلي مباشرة  
على البريد الإلكتروني أو الهاتف المكتوب أدناه . الرجاء ملاحظة أن سؤالك لن يلزمك بالمشاركة في الدراسة .

### الباحثة :

أحلام الزهراني

البريد الإلكتروني : a.al-zahrani@sheffield.ac.uk

الهاتف بالمملكة العربية السعودية 02 6691641

جامعة شفيلد, المملكة المتحدة,

الهاتف: 00441142229783

### مشرفي البحث

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فاكس: 00441142229714

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البريد الإلكتروني : h.stapleton@sheffield.ac.uk

د. جين روين

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الهاتف: 00441142229944

البريد الإلكتروني : j.a.ruane@sheffield.ac.uk

المستشفيات المشاركة

مستشفى جامعة الملك عبدالعزيز

مدير المستشفى

صندوق بريد 80215

جدة 21589

الهاتف: 026952524

مستشفى الولادة والأطفال

مدير المستشفى

صندوق بريد 13677

جدة 21414

الهاتف: 026652053

## Appendix 11: Invitation letter to health care professionals

**Presented on Sheffield University headed paper**

**Study title: Women's sexual health care in Saudi Arabia: An  
ethnographic study in Jeddah**

My name is Ahlam Al-Zahrani. I would like to invite you to participate in a research study which aims to describe how women and health care professionals perceive sexual health and services that are currently provided.

My research is being conducted for a PhD which I am undertaking at the University of Sheffield in the UK. I have obtained ethical approval for the study from the University of Sheffield and I have also obtained permission from the hospital. However, your consent is also an essential requirement.

I hope that the findings from my study will provide greater understanding about sexual health and sexual health services. It is anticipated that the research findings will provide insight into how women's sexual health and sexual health services might be further improved in Saudi Arabia.

An **information sheet**, which provides further details of the study, is attached. Please read this carefully as it will help you to decide whether or not you wish to take part. If you would like to take part please complete the **reply form** and leave it with the clinic receptionist. If you want to ask more questions or want to discuss the study in more detail, you can contact me at any time directly via Email: [a.al-zahrani@sheffield.ac.uk](mailto:a.al-zahrani@sheffield.ac.uk), or Telephone: 02 6691641.

Thank you very much for considering my request.

Yours sincerely

Ahlam Al-Zahrani



## **Appendix 12: Information sheet for health care professionals**

**Presented on Sheffield University headed paper**

**Study title: Women's sexual health care in Saudi Arabia: An  
ethnographic study in Jeddah**

### **What is the aim of the study?**

The study aims to describe how women and health care professionals perceive sexual health and services that are currently provided.

### **What are the objectives of the study?**

- (1) Explore how women perceive and respond to their sexual health
- (2) Explore how women and health care professionals perceive the function, nature and use of sexual health services
- (3) Describe how sexual health care services in Jeddah, SA are designed and implemented
- (4) Describe the role of doctors and nurses within the context of women's sexual health care context

### **Who can participate in the study?**

- (1) All staff working in, or managing, the clinic.
- (2) Any woman attending the clinic for family planning or for postpartum check up who is aged 15 years and above, married, without mental health problems, who have not been victim of rape or sexual assault and who speaks Arabic.

---

**Do I have to take part in the study?**

Your participation is entirely voluntary; it is up to you to decide whether or not to take part. If you would like to take part or to ask questions, please ask the clinic receptionist to call me. The researcher will then contact you personally. If you have decided to participate in the study you will be given this information sheet to keep and asked to sign a consent form. It is necessary to know that even though you agree to take part in the study and you give consent, you still have the right to withdraw at any time and without giving reasons and that will not affect the standard of care or any treatment you receive.

**What will happen to me if I decide to take part?**

There are a number of different ways in which you can take part. If you attend the clinic for family planning or for postpartum check up you can agree to the researcher observing the consultation with your doctor/nurse (providing they give their consent), or you can agree only to being interviewed, or you can agree to being observed and interviewed. If you do decide to take part the researcher will confirm what you are willing to do.

**What is the researcher role during the consultation?**

The role of the researcher will be observer only. That means the researcher will not be involved in giving clinical care or looking at your records. The researcher will be sitting in the room observing and taken written notes.

**Does my doctor/nurse also need to consent to the researcher attending the consultation?**

Yes. The researcher will gain permission from your doctor/nurse for attending the consultation. However, your permission is necessary as well. Either you or your doctor/nurse may ask the researcher to leave the consultation room at any time.

---

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The researcher has to respect the decision and therefore the researcher will not be able to observe the consultation between you and your doctor/nurse. However, you can still give permission to be interviewed if you are interested in taking part in the study.

**Do I have to wait for the researcher to attend the observation or the interview?**

If your turn to be seen by your doctor/nurse came and the researcher was not present, you do not have to wait for the researcher to attend the consultation or the interview. However, this is unlikely to happen unless the researcher conducting an interview or observation with another participant.

**When the researcher will intend to conduct the interview?**

The interview will be conducted at any time after observing the consultation. However, if you or the researcher will not be able to perform the interview on the same date, an appointment will be arranged to conduct the interview at a convenient day/time in the hospital. The interview will be tape recorded with your agreement. You will be interviewed by the researcher alone and the interview will take approximately one hour. The interview will usually be based around what is observed in the clinic and in the consultation. It is necessary to know that even though you agree to take part in the study and you give consent, you still have the right to withdraw at any time without giving reasons. Also, during the interview you have the right to refuse to answer any questions and you can withdraw at any time.

**Will my taking part in this project be kept confidential?**

Yes. All information obtained from the study will be treated as confidential and not disclosed to anyone. It will be kept in a secure place, to which only the researcher will have access. The reports and publications arising from the study will not identify any individual who participated or the hospital in which you work. I will use some short extracts from transcripts in my dissertation and in future publications, but these will be anonymised.

---

**What will happen to the research results?**

It is anticipated that the research findings will initially be disseminated through presentations to staff working in both of the study hospitals. It is hoped that conference presentations and publications in both Saudi Arabia and the UK will follow. The doctoral thesis arising from my research will be available via the British library and the University of Sheffield library.

**Who is funding the project?**

The study researcher has been awarded a scholarship by the Saudi Arabian Ministry of Higher Education.

**Who has ethically reviewed the project?**

This project has been approved by the Research Ethics Committee at the University of Sheffield in the United Kingdom, and by the Ethics Committee in each participating hospital.

**Are there disadvantages to taking part in the study?**

I do not anticipate any particular disadvantages from taking part in this study. However, if you wish to complain please contact the hospital manager or the study supervisors. Contact details are given at the bottom of this sheet.

**What are the possible benefits of taking part?**

Whilst there are no anticipated benefits from taking part in this study I hope you will enjoy taking part. I hope the study findings will provide insight into issues relating to women's sexual health and to service delivery, and perhaps result in improvements to the future provision of sexual health care in Saudi Arabia.

Thank you for reading this participant information sheet and I look forward to your participation. If there is anything that is not clear or that you would like more information about, please ask the clinic receptionist to call me. You may contact me directly by the email address or phone number provided below. Please note that asking further questions will not commit you to taking part in the study

**Researcher:**

**Ahlam Al-Zahrani**

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Appendix 13: Consent form (used with HCPs)

Presented on Sheffield University headed paper

Study title: Women’s sexual health care in Saudi Arabia: An ethnographic study in Jeddah

- Please initial box
1. I confirm that I have read and understand the information sheet for the above project and have had the opportunity to ask questions.
2. I understand that my participation is voluntary and that I am free to withdraw at any time, without giving any reason.
3. I agree to be observed and interviewed.
4. I agree to the researcher observing my consultation only.
5. I agree to be interviewed only.
6. I agree for my interview to be tape-recorded

----- Name of Participant	----- Date	----- Signature
----- Researcher	----- Date	----- Signature



Appendix 14: Consent form (used with patients)

عنوان الدراسة : الرعاية الصحية الجنسية للنساء في المملكة العربية السعودية :  
دراسة عرقية في جدة

☐

1- أقر بأنني قرأت وفهمت ورقة المعلومات للبحث أعلاه وأتاحت لي الفرصة لطرح الأسئلة والإستفسار

☐

2- أفهم أن مشاركتي في البحث طوعية, وأنه يمكنني الإنسحاب في أي وقت بدون ذكر السبب لذلك

☐

3- أوافق للباحثة مرافقتي داخل غرفة الكشف وعمل مقابلة معي

☐

4- أوافق للباحثة مرافقتي داخل غرفة الكشف فقط

☐

5- أوافق على عمل مقابلة معي فقط

☐

6- أوافق على تسجيل المقابلة

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أسم المشاركة

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اليوم

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التوقيع

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إسم الباحثة

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اليوم

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التوقيع

**Appendix 15: Replay form**

**Presented on Sheffield University headed paper**

**Study title: Women’s sexual health care in Saudi Arabia: An  
ethnographic study in Jeddah**

**I would like to take part in the study**

☐

**Contact details**

**Name:**.....

**Home / Office phone (please indicate if you have a preferred time):**

.....

**Mobile:**.....

**Email address:**

.....

**I do not wish to take part in the study**

☐

**PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM TO THE CLINIC RECEPTIONIST.**

Thank you.

Ahlam Al-Zahrani

## **Appendix 16: Interview guide with HCPs**

**A range of the following broadly-based areas of enquiry was covered and additional questions were also be generated from the observational data:**

- Can you tell me about your role in the clinic?
- Can you tell me a little bit about why you have chosen to work in this area?
- Can you tell me what sexual health means to you?
- Have you ever faced difficulties in discussing sexual health topics with women in the clinic? Can you give me any examples?
- Have these difficulties affected your clinical practice or research? In what ways?
- What do you think women should know in relation to their sexual health? Who do you think should teach them about these topics?
- What do you think about the way medical/nursing students learn about female sexual health in medical/nursing schools?
- Can you tell me some of the reasons why women come to the clinic? Why do you think some women don't come to the clinic?
- What do you think about the quality of service provision in this clinic/in SA? Do you feel that sexual health services are appropriate in this clinic/in SA?
- Do you think additional sexual health services should be available? If yes what would you like to see made available?
- Do you have any other comments you would like to add about women's sexual health and sexual health care?

**The following demographic data were collected at an appropriate time during the interview:**

- What is your age?
- What is your nationality?
- What is your job title?
- What are your professional qualifications?
- How long have you been working in the field of sexual health?

## **Appendix 17: Interview guide with women**

**A range of the following broadly-based areas of enquiry were covered and additional questions were also be generated from the observational data:**

- Can you tell me why you are visiting the clinic today? Is this your first visit to the clinic (if not patients asked about reasons for, and experiences of, previous visits).
- Do you face any sexual health problems before/after childbirth?
- Can you tell me if you use/have used any form of contraception? What is your experience of using particular kinds of contraception/reasons why not used?
- Were you taught about sexual health? If yes, where women received information/education (home/school/university/internet/magazines etc) and what they thought about the quality of the information. If she has daughters, will she teach them? If so, what kind of what information will give them?
- Can you describe what sexual health means to you? Do you think this is an area women need to know about? Do you friends/sisters/female family talk about this?
- Have you ever had any sexual health problems? Have you ever asked for advice/treatment about your sexual health (discharge, pain, miscarriages, family planning etc)? Who from? Was the advice/treatment appropriate/helpful?
- What do you think of the sexual health services and the staff at this clinic?
- Do have any friends/family who wouldn't come to a clinic like this? Why not? If appropriate, ask about the views of the woman's husband towards female sexual health.
- Is there anything else you would like to tell me or to add?

**The following demographic data was collected at an appropriate time during the interview:**

- What is your age?
- What is your nationality?
- Do you have any post school qualifications?
- How old were you when you married?
- Do you have any children? How old are they?

## **Appendix 18: Confidentiality agreements**

I am (the transcriber full name), agree to the following confidentiality arrangements for the data supplied to me by the researcher or by the research team.

- 1- I will not discuss or transfer any of this material to anyone outside the research team at the University of Sheffield.
- 2- I will store all material, discs and transcripts in a secure, locked drawer or file.
- 3- I will remove all names from transcripts as they are translated or transcribed.
- 4- On the close of the research project I will return all items, including transcripts, paper, copies and discs to the researcher/research team.
- 5- On completion of my work I will delete all transcripts information from my computer(s).

I agree to the above terms.

Signed.....

Date.....

## Appendix 19: Summary for the observed consultation in AH

Consultation number	Female patients details	Pt-recorded Interview (interview code)	Doctors-recorded interview (interview code)
Consultation 1	Yemeni pt raised in Saudi Arabia PCS. 3 children	No	Yes (MD-AH2) Saudi male doctor
Consultation 2	Palestinian pt, 35 Year old, has 3 children, CS delivery, 41 days PP	No	Yes (FD-AH17) Non-Saudi female doctor
Consultation 3	Yemeni Pt, First delivery CS, had severe anaemia during pregnancy, high secondary school.	Yes (Pt-AH1*)	No Saudi male doctor
Consultation 4	Saudi pt, has 3 children, 2 normal and 1 CS, 30 years old	No	No Saudi female doctor,
Consultation 5	Saudi pt, 30 years old, CS, her baby died (congenital anomalies)	No	Yes (MD-AH6) Saudi Male doctor
Consultation 6	Saudi pt, she married when she was 22 years old, has 6 children, CS. College education.	Yes (Pt-AH2*)	See C 2
Consultation 7	Saudi pt, SVD, first baby, 22 years old, 14 days PP, came with her small sister	No	No Saudi female doctor,
Consultation 8	Two months PP, SVD, first child (girl), none Saudi, she looks in her late twenties	No	See C 2-6
Consultation 9	Two months PP, SVD, fist delivery (boy),	No	See C 7
Consultation 10	Egyptian Pt, 3 children, 1 miscarriage, PCS. University education, 33 year old.	Yes (Pt-AH4)	06"□ Saudi female Saudi female doctor
Consultation 11	had 5 miscarriage	No	No Saudi female doctor
Consultation 12	Saudi pt, First delivery, CS, 25 year old, University education, Haemoglobin was 7 after the CS.	Yes (Pt-AH9)	See C 4
Consultation 13	Egyptian woman, has 2 children, Post-miscarriage	No	See C 11
Consultation 14	Saudi pt, 32 days post SVD, 37 days PP	No	See C 4-12



Consultation 15	Yemeni pt, 50 days PP	No	No Male doctor
Consultation 16	Ethiopian pt, first delivery, post SVD, had eclampsia during pregnancy, first baby	No	See C 15
Consultation 17	Pt Post CS, need contraceptive	No	See C 5
Consultation 18	Palestinian pt, 6 children, eclampsia-husband enter with the patient	No	See C15-16
Consultation 19	Syrian pt, IUD insertion, 2 months PP	No	No Saudi female doctor
Consultation 20	Lebanon pt, IUD check up-Irregular menstruation and itching	No	See C 19
Consultation 21	Yemeni Pt, next app for IUD insertion,	No	See C 11-13
Consultation 22	Syrian pt, 40 days PP, 3 children,	No	See C 11-13-21
Consultation 23	Eritrean Pt, 6 weeks PP, CS, next app for IUD insertion, have hypertension	No	No Male doctor
Consultation 24	Saudi Pt, 40 days PP, CS, 4 children, 26 year old,	Yes (Pt-AH3*)	See C 19-20
Consultation 25	Saudi Pt, CS, 35 years old, 3 children, 30 days PP	No	No Saudi Female doctor
Consultation 26	Saudi Pt, 3 months PP, had stork,	No	See C 25
Consultation 27	Yemeni Pt, IUD check up, 37 Years old, 5 deliveries, 2 miscarriage	No	See C 25-26-
Consultation 28	Yemeni Pt, 4months PP, 29 Year old, pregnancy test	No	C 25-26-27
Consultation 29	Yemeni Pt, IUD check up, back pain, 6 children	No	See C 25-26-27-28
Consultation 30	Yemeni Pt, CS, 30 days PP, ectopic pregnancy,	No	See C 25-26-27-28-29
Consultation 31	Palestinian Pt, pregnancy test, 35 year old, high secondary education, 2 children	Yes (Pt-AH13)	See C 5-17
Consultation 32	Saudi Pt, IUD insertion, Pt get angry (IUD insertion cancelled) 4 children, (2twin), 24 year old, University education.	Yes (Pt-AH14)	See C 2-6-8



Consultation 33	Saudi Pt, first delivery, one month and 37 days PP, 21 year old, Intermediate education	Yes (Pt-AH16)	See C 2-6-8-32
Consultation 34	Saudi patients, IUD inserted,	Yes (Pt-AH11)	See C 19-20-24
Consultation 35	Saudi Pt, IUD insertion, no expert in the clinic to insert the IUD, next IUD appointment, 32 year old, 5 children, university education.	Yes (Pt-AH23)	See C 4-12-14
Consultation 36	Saudi Pt, first delivery, SVD, 2 months and half PP, pregnancy test	No	Yes (MD-AH24) Saudi Male doctor

**PP**=postpartum

**IUD**= Intrauterine device

**CS**=cesarean section

**Pt**= patient

**SVD**=spontaneous vaginal delivery

**C**=consultation

**MD**=male doctor

**FD**=female doctor

**\***=patient refused to be recorded

**App**=appointment

**AH**= refer to the hospital where the interview was conducted

### Note:

-Nurses did not present in the observed consultation, they just in and out in some of them.

-The consultation which was seen by the same doctor given the same color code



### Appendix 20: Summary for the observed consultations in BH

Consultation number	Female patients details	Pt- recorded Interview (interview code)	HCPs-recorded interview (interview code)
Consultation 1	Saudi pt, 4 months PP, post CS. First delivery	No	No Non-Saudi female doctor
Consultation 2	Saudi pt, 2 months PP	No	No Saudi female doctor
Consultation 3	Saudi pt, Post CS, 45 days	No	See C 2
Consultation 4	Yemeni pt, CS, 42 days	No	See C 2-3
Consultation 5	Saudi pt, 22 year old, First delivery, post CS, college education	Yes (Pt-BH3*)	See C 2-3-4
Consultation 6	Saudi pt, has? Children, 42 days PCS. Next appointment for IUD insertion	No	See C 2-3-4-5
Consultation 7	Saudi pt, post SVD, first delivery, came by herself to the emergency department then they refer her to the clinic.	No	See C 2-3-4-5-6
Consultation 8	Saudi pt, Post SVD, 2 months PP, first delivery, came by herself no appointment given to her by the hospital,	No	See C 2-3-4-5-6-7
Consultation 9	Saudi pt, 2 months, post CS, Pt asked the doctor to talk with her husband about contraception	No	Yes (FD-BH40) Saudi female doctor
Consultation 10	Saudi pt, PCS, 10 weeks after delivery, has 5 children. She looks old, very thin, 40 year old.	Yes (Pt-BH28)	See C/ 9
Consultation 11	Saudi pt, 27 years old, First delivery, 26 days PSVD, swelling at episiotomy site, came by herself to the emergency department before one week, referred to PPC	Yes (Pt-BH4*)	Yes (FD-BH2a) Saudi female doctor
Consultation 12	Saudi pt, 12 children, 2 months and 2 weeks PCS, uncontrolled blood pressure. Next appointment for IUD insertion.	No	Yes (FD-BH45) Saudi female doctor



Consultation 13	Saudi pt, PCS, 2 months PP	No	See C12
Consultation 14	Post CS, Pakistani, 40 days PP, 5 children all of them SVD, Diabetic, Pt look very thin, cannot speak Arabic. The sixth child died in her abdomen during her 7 months of pregnancy		See C 12-13
Consultation 15	Post CS, 2 months and 2 weeks PP,	No	See C12-13-14
Consultation 16	Saudi pt, first delivery, post SVD; 34 year old. 32 Days PP, Came without appointment. Discharge in the episiotomy site.	No	See C12-13-14-15
Consultation 17	Egyptian Pt, PCS twins, 30 days PP, has other children ?, Pt bring IUD box, Dr refused to inserted	No	See C/12-13-14-15-16
Consultation 18	Saudi pt, post CS, 2 months PP,	No	Yes (FD-BH1a) Saudi female doctor
Consultation 19	Post CS, 27 days PP, pain in her operation site	No	See C18
Consultation 20	Post CS, swelling in the operation site	No	See C18-19
Consultation 21	Post CS,	No	No Non-Saudi female doctor
Consultation 22	Post CS, post inflammation in the operation site. Follow up	No	See C18-19-20
Consultation 23	Post CS,	No	See C18-19-20-22
Consultation 24	Post CS,	No	No Saudi female doctor
Consultation 25	Post CS, 2 children, 43 days PP, still bleeding	No	See C18-19-20-22-23
Consultation 26	Post SVD, 5 children, IUD inserted	No	See C18-19-20-22-23-25
Consultation 27	Post CS, first delivery, inflammation in the breast, pt came by herself, no appointment given	No	No Saudi female doctor
Consultation 28	Post CS, 3 children, 2 weeks PP,	No	See C 27
Consultation 29	Post SVD, widen in vagina, 3 months PP	No	See C 27-28
Consultation 30	Yemeni pt, Post CS, 3months and one week PP, high secondary education, 26 year old.	Yes (Pt-BH50)	See C 27-28-29
Consultation 31	Saudi pt, Post CS, inflammation in the operation site, 43 days PP. 27 year old,	Yes (Pt-BH51)	See C 27-28-29-30



	3 children. History of frequent miscarriages. Intermediate Education, married at 16 years old.		
Consultation 32	Saudi Pt, Post CS	No	No Saudi male doctor
Consultation 33	Yemeni Pt, Post CS, 3 weeks PP,	Yes (Pt-BH33)	See C 32
Consultation 34	Saudi Pt, Post CS, 2months and 2 weeks PP, inflammation in the operation site	No	No Saudi female doctor
Consultation 35	Post CS, 5 children, tubal ligation done, uncomfortable feeling in the operation site	No	See C 34
Consultation 36	Saudi Pt, Post CS, 2 months PP, hypertension,	No	See C 34-35
Consultation 37	Saudi pt, 2weeks PP, Post CS, suture removal	No	Yes (N-BH31) Egyptian female Nurse
Consultation 38	Saudi pt, with her mom, Post CS, suture removal	No	See C 37

PP=postpartum

IUD= Intrauterine device

CS=cesarean section

Pt= patient

SVD=spontaneous vaginal delivery

C=consultation

MD=male doctor

FD=female doctor

\*=patient refused to be recorded

App=appointment

AH= refer to the hospital where the interview was conducted

**Note:**

- Nurses present in all the consultation with the doctor.
- The consultation which was seen by the same doctor given the same color code

### Appendix 21: Total HCPs interviews in AH

HCPs names, Interview code	HCPs Nationality	HCPs-Participations in the study	Transcribed by
Maha, FD-AH17	Non-Saudi	Observed and interviewed	Researcher
Fahad, MD-AH6	Saudi	Observed and interviewed	transcriber (1)
Eiad, MD-AH2	Saudi	Observed and interviewed	Researcher
Amjad, MD-AH21	Saudi	Interviewed only	Researcher
Mostafa, MD-AH24	Saudi	Observed and interviewed	Researcher
Hanan, N-AH27	Non-Saudi	Interviewed only	Researcher
Fatema, N-AH12	Non-Saudi	observed and interviewed	Researcher
Nora, N-AH13	Non-Saudi	observed and interviewed	Researcher
Renad, N-AH14	Saudi	observed and interviewed	Researcher

**FD**= Female Doctor

**MD**= Male Doctor

**N**= Nurse

**AH**= refer to the hospital where the interview was conducted.

**Number** = refer to the number of the recorded interview.

## Appendix 22: Summary for female patients interviews in AH

<b>Pt names, Interview code</b>	<b>Nationality</b>	<b>Participations in the study</b>	<b>Transcribed by</b>
Rania, Pt-AH8	Saudi	Interviewed only	Transcriber (1)
Donia, Pt-AH13	Non-Saudi	Observed and interviewed	Researcher
Bashaeir, Pt-AH9	Saudi	Observed and interviewed	Researcher
Khadija, Pt-AH23	Saudi	Observed and interviewed	Researcher
Aziza, Pt-AH15	Non-Saudi	Interviewed only	Transcriber (1)
Hasnah, Pt-AH16	Saudi	Observed and interviewed	Researcher
Ghadah, Pt-AH26	Saudi	Interviewed only	Researcher
Nabela, Pt-AH11	Saudi	Observed and interviewed	Researcher
Yasmeen, Pt-AH4	Non-Saudi	Observed and interviewed	Researcher
Nadia, Pt-AH14	Saudi	Observed and interviewed	Researcher
Safaa, Pt-AH1*	Non-Saudi	Observed and interviewed	Researcher
Bian, Pt-AH2*	Saudi	Observed and interviewed	Researcher
Atheer, Pt-AH3*	Saudi	Observed and interviewed	Researcher

**Pt**= patient

**AH**= refer to the hospital where the interview conducted.

**Number** = refer to the number of the recorded interview.

**\*** = Patient refused to be recorded

### Appendix 23: Summary for HCPs interviews in BH

HCPs names, Interviews code	HCPs Nationality	Participations in the study	Transcribed by
Amal, FD-BH43	Saudi	Interviewed only	Researcher
Badreiah, FD-BH45	Saudi	Interviewed and observed	Researcher
Wafaa, FD-BH1a	Saudi	Observed and interviewed	Researcher
Samera, FD-BH2a	Saudi	Observed and interviewed	Researcher
Layila, FD-BH2b	Saudi	Interviewed only	Researcher
Randa, FD-BH40	Saudi	Observed and interviewed	Researcher
Misoon, FD-BH46	Saudi	Interviewed only	Transcriber (1)
Nesreen, FD-BH47	Non-Saudi	Interviewed only	Transcriber (1)
Masoud, MD-BH38	Non-Saudi	Interviewed only	Researcher
Zinab, N-BH31	Non-Saudi	Observed and interviewed	Researcher

**FD**= Female Doctor

**MD**= Male Doctor

**N**= Nurse

**BH**= refer to the hospital where the interview was conducted.

**Number** = refer to the number of the recorded interview.

**Appendix 24: Summary for female patients interviews in BH**

<b>Pts Names, Interviews code</b>	<b>Nationality</b>	<b>Participations in the study</b>	<b>Transcribed by</b>
Ertwaa, Pt-BH28	Saudi	Interviewed and observed	Researcher
Haneen, Pt-BH50	Non-Saudi	Interviewed and observed	Transcriber (2)
Rana, Pt-BH51	Saudi	Interviewed and observed	Transcriber (2)
Aidah, Pt-BH30	Saudi	Interviewed only	Transcriber (2)
Noof, Pt-BH37	Saudi	Interviewed only	Transcriber (2)
Khawlah, Pt-BH33	Non-Saudi	Interviewed and observed	Transcriber (2)
Aisha, Pt-BH3*	Saudi	Observed and interviewed	Researcher
Tamah, Pt-BH4*	Saudi	observed and interviewed	Researcher

**Pt=** Patient

**BH=** refer to the hospital were the interview conducted.

**Number** = refer to the number of the recorded interview.

**\*** = patient refused to be recoded





Part from conducted Interview (MD-AH6)	Memo	Possible Themes
<p>10- Interviewee: to be honest, I didn't think about it. Following our conversation, I had several on-calls and was too busy to think about it. You know how it is, all I had on mind was to finish work at the at the clinic then go to the wards to see the patients and leave at 5.</p> <p>11- Interviewer: I understand, you have a heavy workload. So you have said that you find it awkward and embarrassing to use this terminology. Does that mean that you have a subconscious understanding of this concept that makes it embarrassing to talk about?</p> <p>12- Interviewee: no it's not that. It's just the word, regardless of whether it was said in English or Arabic.</p> <p>13- Interviewer: so when I say, sexual (in Arabic) or sex (in English) what does it signify to you? What does it bring to your mind?</p> <p>14- Interviewee: the sexual relationship between a man and a woman.</p>	<p>-Complain of work lode</p> <p>-Sensitivity of the word</p> <p>-Limited definition to sexual health -focused on the mechanical part</p>	<p>-Time pressure</p> <p>-Culture sensitivity</p> <p>-Perceiving sexual health -Defining sexual health</p>